

Alaska State Legislature

Select Committee on Legislative Ethics

745 W. 4th Ave., Suite 415
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: (907) 269-0150
FAX: (907) 269-0152
Email: ethics.committee@akleg.gov
Website: <http://ethics.akleg.gov>

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 90251
Anchorage, AK
99509-0251

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE Complaint S 18-02: Liz Clark, Senate Secretary

DISMISSAL ORDER AND DECISION

A complaint was filed on March 9, 2018 against Liz Clark, Senate Secretary. The Senate Subcommittee met on November 1, 2018 and determined that a probable cause decision should not be issued in this matter and that this complaint be dismissed.

The alleged violation occurred during the 2017 legislative session.

The part of the Ethics Act allegedly violated was AS 24.60.030(a)(2).

A ... legislative employee...may not use...government...resource for a nonlegislative purpose... for the private benefit of ... another person

Benefit is defined in AS 24.60.990(a)(2) as ... “benefit” ...includes all matters, whether tangible or intangible, that could reasonably be considered to be a material advantage, or material worth, use or service to the person to whom it is conferred; the terms are intended to be interpreted broadly and encompass all matters that the recipient might find sufficiently desirable to do something in exchange for

The activities alleged to be in violation of the Legislative Ethics Act were that Senate Secretary Liz Clark “used her office to conduct Gastineau (sic) Humane Society (GHS) Board business, and had her employee who was also a GHS Board member join her. Generally this occurred on Thursday mornings, and involved conference calls with others involved with GHS, but also at other times.”

THE INVESTIGATION

The Administrator of the committee conducted the investigation regarding the allegations in the complaint. Six individuals were interviewed as part of the investigation. The investigative report to the committee was reviewed at the Senate Subcommittee meeting on November 1, 2018.

DISMISSAL ORDER AND DECISION

On November 1, 2018, the Senate Subcommittee determined a dismissal of the allegations of a violation was appropriate in this matter.

GENERAL STATEMENT

The subcommittee points out that Liz Clark and the Senate Secretary staff cooperated with the investigation and provided documentation when requested.

Signature redacted for privacy

Adopted this 1st day of November 2018
by a majority of the Senate Subcommittee

H Conner Thomas, Chair

Members Participating

Dennis "Skip" Cook
Senator John Coghill
Senator Berta Gardner
Joyce M. Anderson
Deb Fancher
Lee Holmes
H. Conner Thomas, Chair